

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application or previous response to office action:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A bag system for collecting a biological fluid comprising:

a collection device;

a fluid collection bag in fluid communication with the collection device; and

a sampling device in fluid communication with the collection device, the sampling device including:

at least one sampling receptacle; and

a transfer device having an associating device operable to support the receptacle in a standby position without external assistance in which it is not pierced by a needle, guide the receptacle to a transfer position in which it is pierced by a needle, and allow dissociation of the receptacle from the bag system,

wherein the associating device includes a guide having a first set of projections operable to support the receptacle in the transfer position and a second set of projections operable to support the receptacle in the standby position, both sets of projections distributed on the internal surface of the guide.

2. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the biological fluid comprises blood.

3. (Original) The system of Claim 1, further comprising:

a first tube to establish fluid communication between the collection device and the fluid collection bag; and

a second tube to establish fluid communication between the collection device and the sampling device.

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4. (Original) The system of Claim 3, wherein the sampling device further comprises a sampling bag connected to the downstream end of the second tube.

5. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the receptacle has a body having a first diameter and further comprises a closure element having a second diameter greater than the first diameter

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6. (Original) The system of Claim 5, wherein the transfer device further comprises:

a hollow guide open at a front part to allow introduction of the sampling receptacle; and

a hollow needle in fluid communication with the bag system,

wherein the hollow needle passes through a rear part of the guide so that a downstream part of the needle extends inside the guide and an upstream part of the needle extends outside the guide, and

wherein the hollow needle is operable to perforate the closure element of the receptacle, placing the downstream part of the needle inside the receptacle.

7. (Original) The system of Claim 6, wherein the association device further comprises a first and second set of projections distributed longitudinally on an internal face of the guide,

wherein the projections are arranged so as to be deformable by sliding the receptacle inside the guide, and

wherein the projections are arranged so as to permit a reversible association of the receptacle inside the guide and the sliding of the receptacle inside the guide between a standby position at a distance from the needle and the transfer position.

8. (Original) The system of Claim 7, further comprising at least one flexible projection reversibly deformable from a position inclined towards the rear of the guide by contact of the receptacle while sliding inside the guide in a rear to front direction, to a position inclined towards the front of guide while sliding in a front to rear direction.

9. (Original) The system of Claim 7, further comprising the a first set of projections breakable under the deformation and located near the needle.

10-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) The stem of Claim 6, wherein the hollow guide further comprises a cap having a tamper-evident element.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Original) The system of Claim 1, further comprising at least two identification tags, one disposed on the collection bag and the other disposed on the receptacle, wherein the tags allows the establishment, after their dissociation, that both the collection bag and receptacle originated from the same bag system.

17-19. (Cancelled)

20. (**Currently Amended**) A bag system for collecting a biological fluid comprising:

a collection device;

a fluid collection bag in fluid communication with the collection device; and

a sampling device in fluid communication with the collection device, the sampling device including:

at least one sampling receptacle; and

a transfer device having an associating device operable to support the receptacle in a standby position without external assistance in which it is not pierced by a needle, guide the receptacle to a transfer position in which it is pierced by a needle, and allow dissociation of the receptacle from the bag system,

wherein the bag system contains no biological fluid, and

wherein the associating device includes a guide having a first set of projections operable to support the receptacle in the transfer position and a second set of

projections operable to support the receptacle in the standby position, both sets of projections distributed on the internal surface of the guide.

21. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 20, wherein the receptacle has a body having a first diameter and further comprises a closure element having a second diameter greater than the first diameter, and wherein the transfer device further comprises:

a hollow guide open at a front part to allow introduction of the sampling receptacle; and

a hollow needle in fluid communication with the bag system,

wherein the hollow needle passes through a rear part of the guide so that a downstream part of the needle extends inside the guide and an upstream part of the needle extends outside the guide, and

wherein the hollow needle is operable to perforate the closure element of the receptacle, placing the downstream part of the needle inside the receptacle.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 21, wherein the association device further comprises a first and second set of projections distributed longitudinally on an internal face of the guide,

wherein the projections are arranged so as to be deformable by sliding the receptacle inside the guide, and

wherein the projections are arranged so as to permit a reversible association of the receptacle inside the guide and the sliding of the receptacle inside the guide between a standby position at a distance from the needle and the transfer position.

23. (Currently Amended) A bag system for collecting a biological fluid comprising:

a collection device;

a fluid collection bag in fluid communication with the collection device;

a sampling device in fluid communication with the collection device, the sampling device including:

at least one sampling receptacle; and

a transfer device having an associating device operable to support the receptacle in a standby position without external assistance, in which it is not pierced by a needle, guide the receptacle to a transfer position in which it is pierced by a needle, and allow dissociation of the receptacle from the bag system; and

at least two identification tags, one disposed on the collection bag and the other disposed on the receptacle, wherein the tags allows the establishment, after their dissociation, that both the collection bag and receptacle originated from the same bag system,

wherein the bag system contains no biological fluid, and

wherein the associating device includes a guide having a first set of projections operable to support the receptacle in the transfer position and a second set of projections operable to support the receptacle in the standby position, both sets of projections distributed on the internal surface of the guide.

24. (Previously Presented) The stem of Claim 23, wherein the hollow guide further comprises a cap having a tamper-evident element.

25. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 23, wherein the receptacle has a body having a first diameter and further comprises a closure element having a second diameter greater than the first diameter, and wherein the transfer device further comprises:

a hollow guide open at a front part to allow introduction of the sampling receptacle; and

a hollow needle in fluid communication with the bag system,

wherein the hollow needle passes through a rear part of the guide so that a downstream part of the needle extends inside the guide and an upstream part of the needle extends outside the guide, and

wherein the hollow needle is operable to perforate the closure element of the receptacle, placing the downstream part of the needle inside the receptacle.

26. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 25, wherein the association device further comprises a first and second set of projections distributed longitudinally on an internal face of the guide,

wherein the projections are arranged so as to be deformable by sliding the receptacle inside the guide, and

wherein the projections are arranged so as to permit a reversible association of the receptacle inside the guide and the sliding of the receptacle inside the guide between a standby position at a distance from the needle and the transfer position.

27. (New) The system of Claim 1, wherein the first set of projections and second set of projections are both distributed longitudinally on the internal surface of the guide.

28. (New) The system of Claim 1, wherein the first set of projections is located near the needle and the second set of projections is located near a front region of the guide.